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BEHIND THE TRUMAN IRON CURTAIN

How the Democrats sold out FEPC

TWO days after a majority of Democratic senators voted to sustain the filibuster against establishing a Fair Employment Practices Commission, the Administration rushed out its whitewash report on Armed Forces jimcrow. Top party leaders were worried lest the exposure of their civil rights program as a complete sham prove ruinous in the 1950 elections, in 12 key states where Negro and Jewish voters are a balance of power.

Nine years ago, in March, 1941, Congressman Vito Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) introduced the first FEPC bill. Then, President Roosevelt issued a wartime FEPC order. In former years the fight for a permanent FEPC was marked by grueling all-night sessions to break the

filibuster. This year, Fair Deal and Northern Democrats didn't even make the pretense of a fight: the Senate quit before dinner. These were factors behind the betrayal:

THEY HAD THE POWER: The Democratic Party has three centers of power—the White House with enormous patronage attendant on control of all executive agencies; the Democratic National Committee which allocates money to state and city machines; the party leadership in Congress, composed of heads of key committees, who determine party policy on the floor and, with a mjority on all committees, control vast appropriations and patronage.

Neither the White House nor the Democratic National Committee, currently nursing a kitty of several million dollars collected at Jackson and Jefferson Day dinners, lifted a finger for FEPC.

In this cold-war period when government is in business on the scale of many billions a year, and the indebtedness of big business—especially oil and munitions men—to the Administration is deep, the resources at the disposal of the Administration are tremendous. Every day in the week the National Committee and the White House use these resources and every method short of force to whip Congress into line on key bills: promises of money for state campaigns, judgeships, war contracts for local industries.

None of these resources or methods was used in behalf of FEPC.

DEMOCRATS WHO DIDN'T: The party leadership in Congress is in the hands of southerners: Connally (Texas), George (Ga.), Maybank (S.C.), Sparkman and Hill (Ala.), and the so-called Fair Deal stalwarts, Pepper (Fla.), Graham (N.C.) and Kefauver (Tenn.). These men voted against FEPC or didn't vote.

Only one of the 15 Democratic chairmen of standing committees voted for FEPC. Of the 19 Democratic Senators voting for it, the only other holding a position of importance was Majority Leader Lucas (Ill.). Lucas faces a tough fight for re-election in a state with 300,000 potential Negro voters.

MIGHT-HAVE-BEEN VOTES: The weakness of pro-FEPC forces made the Democratic betrayal possible.

A year ago the Nat. Assn. for Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League, CIO's Political Action Committee, liberals and progressives recognized that only a national campaign to register southern Negroes

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OUR SENIOR CITIZENS SPEAK UP

See: Townsend Plan Convention and Northwest Report, page 8.

People's vigil can win FEPC!

ALONG the leafy sidewalk in front of the White House a People's Vigil for FEPC was set in motion last Wednesday by the Progressive Party. The action was proclaimed with these words:

"The People's Vigil for FEPC is organized to remind the Administration and the senators of both parties that the people will not be satisfied until a strong Fair Employment Practices bill is passed.

"The people are tired of excuses . . . tired of filibusters . . . betrayals.

"The people want FEPC not as a partisan issue in the 1950 elections, but as a law on the statute books of the land."

You may be able to come to Washington to join this vigil. If so, get in touch with the Progressive Party at 930 F St. N.W.

BUT even on your home front, you can help this vigil succeed. In the Senate vote on closure there were 52 of the required 64 votes to head off a filibuster. The 52 votes for closure represent more than a majority of the Senate: therefore the legislation could have been passed forthwith if the threat of filibuster had been removed.

Eight Administration Democrats failed to vote on closure. They are Chavez (N.M.), Frear (Del.), Murray (Mont.), Thomas (Okla.), Downey (Calif.), Pepper (Fla.), Graham (N.C.), Tydings (Md.). Two others, Kefauver (Tenn.) and Johnson (Colo.), voted against closure. Two pro-FEPC Republicans, Morse (Ore.) and Langer (N.D.), failed to vote. Voting—and voting right—these 12 alone could have won for FEPC. In addition, six Republicans joined the Dixiecrats in voting against closure. They are Bridges (N.H.), Ecton (Mont.), Malone (Nev.), Gurney (S.D.), Mundt (S.D.), Young (N.D.).

These men will all undoubtedly be in their home states for the next week. If not you can reach them at Senate Office Building, Washington.

THEY should be reached—by you who are their home-state constituents—and appealed to in behalf of a positive vote for closure to prevent a filibuster. Then FEPC can be passed hands-down—PROVIDED the Administration leaders bring it up again. President Truman and Senate Majority Leader Lucas must be asked to give the legislation a new priority.

A message for Memorial Day: Let there be no more gas chambers!

This article is pure fact. It is one of thousands of similar incidents that took place in Hitler's Europe. The author was imprisoned in the Belsen and Auschwitz concentration camps, one of the few who emerged alive from the latter. She is the wife of Eugene Weinstock, author of "Beyond the Last Path," the story of Buchenwald.

By Dawn Weinstock

THE train slowly pulled out of the station that Saturday afternoon. They had packed 78 of us, with our scant belongings, into a single freight car. We stood leaning on one another in uncomfortable positions, to squeeze a bit of room for the children and the old people to lie down.

A single barred aperture supplied air. By the time dawn came up we were utterly exhausted.

But human nature is a strange thing: with the sun came hope—hope of a new day, hope at the last minute. We were waiting for a miracle. Even the train leaving the station had been a miracle, after the long wait, the haunting uncertainty. To go, go, go, anywhere. The quiet, the lack of air tore into our nerves. The tension was unbearable.

Where we were going, what the future held, we did not know. So few of us knew that most of us would not live to tell of this journey. But now, just to be moving meant something of a resurrection.

We traveled two days and two nights. The train passed through upper Hungary, among the beautiful mountains and valleys. Nature sparkled in full brilliance, for it was the end of May. We stood at the tiny window in turns, not to admire the view, but to gasp a few breaths of fresh air.

I WILL never forget little Georgie. He was three, a sweet child sitting on a mound of parcels, just staring. When we spoke to him, he would smile. When we asked him if he was all right, he would say: "Mommie, I am thirsty." There was not a drop of water to give him—or anyone. He didn't cry, he made no fuss.

Is there anything more terrible than to watch a child grow old in a few hours? He behaved like an aged man with a calm that comes with a store of experience. The desperation of the people around him, the terror in their eyes robbed him of the spirit of childhood.

In the afternoon it rained and we managed to catch some drops in a dish. We gave it to Georgie, and watching him drink slaked our own parching thirst. He gave the dish back and said: "It was good, Mommie."

As I recall this scene, everything else is blotted out. We parted at Auschwitz. I never saw him again. I fight against trying to picture him, with wondering eyes, the smile gone forever, as he faced his death in the gas chamber.

THIS memory haunts me as I read in the papers day after day of the fear of war. In a few papers, too, I read how the nations of eastern Europe, and China, where so many children suffered the fate of little Georgie—millions!—are watching over the development of their children and planning for their welfare. They understand.

One must not weep over the past. One must profit from experience. Let us build a beautiful future for our children. Let there be not one more little Georgie Let there be no more jammed freight cars, no thirst and gas chambers, no cold war or hot war.

Let there be peace—so a child can be a child.

You mothers who read this; you mothers who watch your happy children play around you, who experience that precious inner glow that only a mother can feel: you mothers, I beg of you to remember the story of little Georgie.

And, remembering it, join the ranks of the swelling army of peace.

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THE MAILBAG

Play it up!

BRONX, N. Y.

You missed the boat again. Your heading, "Don't be a Sucker—Harry Truman's Spring Corn" (May 17) was sensational. But why don't you play it up? Blaze it across the top of the page. Even use blue or red ink. You can't fight the poison of a Hearst or a Roy Howard with modesty. Don't be so darn conservative in your make-up. You've got the "stuff" for a great newspaper, so dish it out.

That article about Reuther was tops. But how about news of the various Progressive Party clubs? Include their social and political news. Don't only give us the bad things in American life.

Sid Sheinbaum

With eight pages a week, we are already bursting at the seams to crowd everything in. More readers equals more pages equals no more missed boats. Ed.

Salud from Mexico

TAMPICO, MEXICO

The many literate Mexican people I meet are amazed over Truman, Acheson, Attlee and Bevin turning a deaf ear to the popular demand for a meeting of the powers and eliminating the atom and hydrogen bomb as war weapons; for offering world disarmament; for calling off the cold war and thus freeing world trade. They commend Wallace and the Progressive Party and the militants in English labor who propose these things. I believe throughout the world we will find a like mind.

C. V. Warner

83 and hopeful

BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINN.

It won't make much difference to me what happens to the future as I have passed my 83d milestone. But I can't remain inactive when I see how people fall for this misleading propaganda creating fear and confusion among people who get the idea the only way to save democracy and Christianity is to get ready to start a murderous war.

I know the history of Russia and China, governed for centuries by greed and selfishness: The people were left in the dark, illiterate, persecuted; result—poverty and starvation. They wanted a change. Why should we interfere?

All I can do is to try and inform people of the truth by getting the GUARDIAN into their hands. Hoping we can get some results.

O. K. Benson

Paris is with us

PARIS, FRANCE

We progressives in Paris are with you, and are in the process of setting up a new organization to represent the peace forces in the world. This organization will be a broad grouping of American veterans (this group having recently left the defunct AVC), students, professional people, etc. **Lanie Van Brink**

Get wise, folks

DETROIT, MICH.

Enclosed is $2 instead of one for the GUARDIAN for another year. Why don't the rest of the people in these United States (not including the intelligent ones who already read the NG) get wise and read the truth? I gave up reading the daily press because of the trash they print. **Mitchell Mugarditchian**

Like Dives

LEXINGTON, MASS.

The radio said that the striking Chrysler working men lost a stupendous sum in wages and that the corporation lost a larger amount. This second loss came out of the stockholders. It is to be supposed that the management, like Dives, was "faring sumptuously every day." Perhaps you might get someone who knows about such things to write an article advocating national law forbidding managements to receive either salary or bonus while a strike is in progress.

Merlin W. Ennis

A sure thing?

MODESTO, CALIF.

I see by the papers (as Mr. Dooley would say) Republican National Chairman Gabrielson refers to Truman as "a distinguished alumnus of the Pendergast college of dishonest politics." That description, well rubbed in, should put Truman on ice. We recommend, as GOP nominee, apple salesman Hoover, while waiting for prosperity to come around the corner. If not satisfactory they still have the payroll-padding patriot Parnell Thomas, elected seven times by GOP votes.

Ingersoll once said, "In politics there is nothing so uncertain as a sure thing." We can still vote for Wallace, who speaks the language of liberty in English and Spanish and therefore will promote international friendship vs. present terrorist cold and hot war propaganda.

"By their works ye shall know them." **George Cartwright**

Tom Paine said it

OAK PARK, ILL.

I am greatly pleased by your militant struggle against the hysterical deportation of aliens by this country—the government of which was largely founded by "aliens," or in the words of Thomas Paine, "persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from every part of Europe."

Don Morrice

A valued gift

CHICAGO, ILL.

Enclosed find check for $10 as a contribution from the Swedish Educational League. We feel that the GUARDIAN is a valuable source of dependable information that no informed person should be without.

Claire M. Hillman, Secretary

The answer is: Yes

ASTORIA, N. Y.

Last night, after a late meeting, I decided to splurge and take a cab home from the subway. The driver started talking about housing, unemployment, war. Pretty soon we found ourselves in agreement on a good number of questions. I asked him, was he acquainted with the GUARDIAN. He said, no. When I got home, he kept me standing telling me some more of his ideas. In the end, he gave me the dollar I had just given him for the fare and asked me to see to it that he got a subscription to the GUARDIAN. Aren't people wonderful?

Gerda Lerner

Two are enough

LEETONIA, OHIO

I'm glad to see in your columns a little discussion on Henry Wallace's views on private enterprise. Though I do not agree with his views, and should hate to see them incorporated into the platform of the party, I do believe that he should have the right to advocate them as should also the extreme left—all within the framework of the organization.

We already have two parties pledged to preserve capitalism. We certainly do not need a third. It is now more than 40 years since I first got the idea that the basic evils of our day are due to the dominant method by which our nation makes a living. In all that time, I haven't seen anything happen that would indicate that these evils can be abolished while capitalism lives. That does not mean that I would not work with those who still have faith in the old order.

I fear only that the Progressive Party, if it pledges itself to the support of capitalism, might one day soon find itself in much the same position as Harry Truman who pledges both warfare and welfare and can only deliver warfare; or the position of the British Laborites who cannot at the same time make the transition to socialism easy for both workers and capitalists, so they guarantee dividends to former railroad owners and freeze wages to workers. **John W. Marshall**

Recommended blend

NEWTON CENTER, MASS.

Europe's only chance of survival rests upon its success in bringing Asia and America together—since it would be the next battleground, from White Sea to Black Sea, from the Atlantic to the Adriatic.

Capitalism cannot survive a destroyed Europe. An accord between America and Asia can be reached only upon the freedom and sacred dignity of the individual. An "entente cordiale" between America and Asia would fade their present sharp lines of distinction, giving either ideology an opportunity for new growths, ultimately blossoming into a new concept not irritating to either grouping: a blending which may well give birth to:

A capitalism based upon a production sufficient to satisfy all consumers' needs, and

A communism based upon the supreme position of the individual and his efforts. **John H. Bernard**

FINAL NOTICE TO DELINQUENTS

We hate to cut off your subscription, but . . .

THE GUARDIAN is now staggering along under the excess load of some 25,000 unrenewed subscriptions out of a total current readership of 100,000.

This is one excess cost we are going to cut — and cut fast — unless your renewal comes in by return mail.

The great bulk of the 25,000 of you whose subscriptions have now expired or are about to expire joined the GUARDIAN readership one year ago, when we lowered our price from $4 a year to the special rate of $1 in order to go after a mass readership.

The $1 price is peanuts: it is less than 2c a week! Therefore when you do not renew your subscription we can be pretty sure it isn't because of the 1950 Depression. Rather, we must assume either that you don't want the paper or that you are a chronic procrastinator when it comes to paying bills. In either case you are a luxury the rest of us can't afford to carry.

We have sent every lapsed subscriber a renewal notice. We can't afford to send another. Therefore we'll wait one more week, and if your renewal hasn't come in by that time we shall proceed to lop off all stragglers forthwith and get on with our main job of building a readership which truly wants the GUARDIAN and is willing to pay for it.

NOW, for the 75,000 of you who DO want the GUARDIAN, here is advance notice of a step we have been planning for some time—something unique in American journalism: the reader-run newspaper.

We have in formation a national board of trustees to whom we intend to transfer the ownership of Weekly Guardian Associates, Inc. Through a resident administrative committee, these trustees will thenceforth manage NATIONAL GUARDIAN. They will decide on its policies and its administration.

These trustees will be elected annually by the readers of the paper themselves, the right to vote depending solely on the amount of interest and enterprise shown by you yourself.

The minimum will be $10 worth of interest, in new subscribers or direct contribution (including, of course, your own subscription and punctual renewal).

FULL announcement of this change in administration of the GUARDIAN will be made next month, at which time we will present the names of the initiating trusteeship and full details of how the plan will work from then on.

First, however, we are determined to get the GUARDIAN in fighting trim for the job of securing an enterprise to be run by and for its readers who think enough of their paper to work to keep it alive.

The Editors

Report on our Operation Bootstrap

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

The reason for the delay in answering was the question of whether or not I would have time. I have finally come to the conclusion this is a must. Count me in.

T. J. Huie

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Your letter received. Yes, we will follow suggestions and do what we can this evening after work and other times till results. Bless you all.

H. H. Hester

STOCKTON, CALIF.

We had our meeting last night; 13 turned up. A good time was had by all and we got ourselves organized into a going concern, meeting monthly in my home till our membership is sufficient to hire a hall (Optimist again!)

Sybil Sticht

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

I walked in on a little merchant yesterday, and found him reading the GUARDIAN. I said, "Well, it's a little smaller this time." And he replied, "Yes, but better one or two pages of this, than all that junk." He pointed to a local daily commercial paper. I said, "Amen, brother, but we have to keep it rolling." Real quick-like he got the idea and let a five-spot float into the GUARDIAN pot, on top of one whole dollar from a family whose income is less than $30 per week.

Clara M. Vincent

KINGSFORD, MICH.

I am going to do all I can do on this project in the hope that our many hands may move the mountain. There can be no doubt that the common people—the people that furnish the cannon fodder and pay all the costs of war—desire peace.

James Hayden

BOULDER, CALIF.

Present subscribers seem to be most enthusiastic over the paper and I know are constantly interested in increasing the number of readers here.

J. Albright

TRENTON, N. J.

Attitude of "we must do it somehow" led my wife and me to make a small house party, also to call on some friends and other GUARDIAN subscribers. Result is enclosed money order for $15.50. **A. M. S.**

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

The enclosed check for $25 comes from a group of women who pledged the amount at a luncheon a few days ago when some of us reported on the terrible struggle the GUARDIAN is having to stay alive.

Martha Keltz

People's World, San Francisco

"One step closer, Mr. Flipp, and you'll be dealing with the UOPWA!"

ROUNDUP

How the Democrats sold out FEPC

(Continued from page 1)

could win FEPC. Of Virginia's 370,000 potential Negro voters, under 50,000 are registered; of N. Carolina's 500,000, only 65,000; of Georgia's 600,000, only 100,000.

But no broad registration campaign was carried out—although in seven of the 13 southern states there are no poll taxes. The NAACP and the Progressive Party recently launched registration campaigns in N. Carolina and Georgia. The effectiveness of heavy Negro registration as a threat to white supremacists was shown in Georgia, where Dixiecrats had to resort to the Supreme Court to uphold the gerrymandering that nullified the heavy Negro vote in Atlanta.

IN THE NORTH: Pro-FEPC forces failed to carry out adequate political organization in key northern states, where the Negro has the vote and a balance of power. Pressure exerted on the Democrats the year round by independent organization, by the threat of independent candidates or support of Republicans, could have forced (and still can force) the Democrats to fight for FEPC or lose the 1950 elections.

A united front of liberals and progressives behind independent candidates in the close senatorial campaigns in Pa., Calif., N. Y., Ill., Mo., and in key districts in the big cities, would have made the Democrats sit up and take notice. The Progressive Party advocated this policy at its 1949 convention, urging support of Negro candidates wherever they run.

UNION LEADERS' BLINDNESS: Labor, which has spent millions in unsuccessful southern organizing drives, has failed to realize that the fight for political emancipation of the Negro is the key to trade union growth in the one-party South. Labor and other pro-

FEPC forces failed to recognize that northern business interests are now in the forefront of the anti-FEPC fight. The movement of industry south to avoid union wage-rates is accelerating. Wages in the South are half to two-thirds what they are in the North.

Labor can defend itself in the North only by fighting for the Negro in the South. By eliminating the system of discrimination which cuts the Negro's earning power in both North and South, FEPC would raise wage levels throughout the land.

The fight for an effective FEPC this year is still to be fought. Liberal Negro and white organizations throughout the country are plunging more earnestly into the fight.

WAR & PEACE

Lie hopeful after historic mission

THREE thousand cheering UN employees welcomed Trygve Lie home from his stop-the-cold-war mission to Europe. He told them:

"I never expected this publicity, but you do not know how many thousands and thousands of mothers wrote letters to me, how many groups sent me flowers. There was just one idea behind all these expressions of sympathy and that was peace and peace and peace.

"Europe wants peace — both Eastern Europe and Western Europe — and that is the target of the UN: that there shall be peace and no more cold war. It will take some time; but be patient. And the time will come when nobody will talk about cold war and the aim of the nations will be peace and only peace."

"Remember the good old days when the only thing we had to fear was fear itself?"

GRAVEDIGGERS: Immediate objectives of Lie's talks in Washington, London, Paris and Moscow were admission to UN of the effective government of China and an extraordinary meeting of the Security Council, with nations represented by heads of government or foreign ministers rather than ordinary delegates.

The world over, Lie's mission was seen as the most important event of 1950; but the U. S. press had tried to sabotage it from the outset. It pictured Lie as "taken in" by Soviet peace declarations, as a "'simpleton," as having sometimes "backed the Soviets" (N. Y. **Times**, May 14). The day of his return was particularly thin in major news but the N. Y. **Times** and **Herald Tribune**, burying the story on pages 2 and 7, were simultaneously inspired to run it alongside a blast at Russia by Yugoslavia's Tito. Typical reporting was the statement by NBC correspondent Henry Cassidy: "Lie's mission is hopeless and the cold war is permanent."

YEAR OF DECISION: At his press conference, Lie calmly refused the bait in reporters' loaded questions, parried questions about the substance of his talks, emphasizing that his mission was "exploratory" and was anyway incomplete until he saw Truman. He made it clear that he had left memoranda

TRYGVE LIE
Hope springs eternal

concerning proposed solutions with the leaders he saw, and called 1950 "the year of decision" during which the cold war must be eased to avert "disaster." To one reporter's suggestion that "the only way to end the cold war is to win it," Lie said: "I don't understand how a cold war can be won."

Another question as to whether the U.S.S.R. still had confidence in UN drew an emphatic "yes." U. S. press reports that people in Moscow only found out during his visit about UN's information office there were quite untrue. The office, he said, had a large UN flag on it which all could see, and was filled with people making inquiries.

Of the Soviet Union he said: "The whole nation shows the effects of several years of peace," with an air of growing prosperity everywhere. Lie spent one afternoon at a soccer game in Moscow attended by 120,000 well-dressed people—a crowd that "could have been transferred at any time to Wembley Stadium or Ebbets Field." Stalin was "the picture of health": he sat across a table from Lie in the Kremlin with Molotov and Vishinsky, smoking a pipe and occasionally going to his desk to refill it.

THINGS ARE MOVING: British Foreign Secretary Bevin's statement after seeing Lie that the new China must be brought into UN was not new, Lie said; Bevin had made the same statement before. But there were indications that the mission had set new wheels in motion. Diplomatic sources in Paris indicated France would like to go along but was awaiting U. S. reaction.

Reports from London and Paris following Lie's visits there on his return from Moscow were also optimistic regarding the possibility of an extraordinary meeting of the Security Council in Europe this summer.

But in Washington, the day Lie returned to Lake Success, President Truman said he "knew nothing about" Lie's peace efforts. Officials sneered that Russia can't be trusted. The State Dept. adopted a "skeptical attitude." Congressmen called Lie a "pro-Soviet appeaser."

KNOWS NOTHING, EXPLAINS NOTHING: During the final week of Lie's trip, Truman issued his fouth annual report to Congress on the UN, apparently timed to destroy American faith in the UN and Lie's peace mission. Truman said the UN's constructive activities had been overshadowed by Soviet "obstructionism." Russian walkouts over China's UN representation were "wilful flouting of her obligations," Truman said. He did not explain why the U. S. insists on exclusion from the UN of a nation of 475,000,000 people; or why it insists on the obsolete Baruch Plan, although Britain, France and Russia have all indicated willingness to seek a new atomic control formula acceptable to all major powers. The U. S. turned down Lie's proposal that atomic energy discussions be resumed minus the delegate from tottering Formosa Island, even though Chiang's delegate agreed to stay away.

Official reaction to Lie's mission made it clear that the U. S., while calling the UN "an organization to help solve international difficulties," was making their solution impossible.

SPREADING FRICTIONS: Yet every day Washington's difficulties in keeping the cold war going were on the increase. Indonesia, proclaiming its neutrality in the cold war, said it didn't want to enter the UN until China was admitted. Max Werner wrote that the Atlantic Pact machinery was creating "a warehouse where all the contradictions and frictions among the western powers are being sorted and carefully developed."

He quoted the influential French commentator Jean Servan Schreiber (of the conservative Paris **Monde**) to the effect that the average European thinks the U. S. "has satellized Europe" and its "real aim in organizing the Atlantic Community is to prepare its defenses for a war that America judges imminent."

Daily Worker, London

"Lumme! — the new flag."

Flyers back: No horror

Arrival of two Marines in Long Beach, Calif., after 19 months' detention by the new Chinese Republic was supposed to furnish ammunition for a new cold war blast. But the affair backfired from the moment Sgt. Elmer C. Bender and Chief Electrician's Mate William S. Smith arrived because:

They said that all the Chinese they met regarded Chiang Kai-shek as a "bad egg"; that "after the Communists arrived [in the Tsingtao area] the refugees went back to their homes, food came in and things got better"; that they never were subjected to pressure, never placed behind bars, never tortured, never saw a Russian.

Despite advance stories that they were suffering from anemia as result of a constant rice diet, they said they seldom got rice, except when everyone else got it, along with fish, to celebrate a victory.

Vie Nuove, Rome

"With Coke, there's really no need for the Americans to make any more A-bombs. . . ."

Monopoly has you by the throat—good and tight

By Tabitha Petran

BENJAMIN Fairless, president of the $2,500,000,000 U. S. Steel Corp., could think of no more appropriate place than Boston, "cradle of our precious liberties," for businessmen to "throw off the shackles of anti-trust laws which have made them into potential jailbirds." So he and 50 other 20th-century revolutionists—presidents and chairmen of companies with assets of $24,500,000,000—gathered recently in Boston's Faneuil Hall to issue a new "Boston Declaration."

Nobody else in the nation could figure what cause Fairless or any other big businessman had to complain of the Truman Administration, whose personnel has been chosen from big business ranks. The fact is that monopoly has American life by the throat as never before.

BENJAMIN FAIRLESS

With 300,000 employees and a third of the nation's steel capacity, U. S. Steel belongs to the Morgan empire which, at last count, embraced something like 40 industrial companies and 23 banks and insurance companies with total assets of over $25,000,000,000. When Fairless appeared before Rep. Emanuel Celler's (D-N.Y.) subcommittee investigating monopoly in April, he won from four of the five congressmen present the highest praise. Making no real effort to probe the steel monopoly, the subcommittee suppressed a study of U. S. Steel's vast ramifications made by the N.Y. engineering firm Ford, Bacon & Davis.

STEEL: Steel prices affect some 5,000 items from can openers to autos. Since the peak boom of 1926 they have risen 71%, in contrast to a 51½% rise in wholesale prices in general. This rise was "possible only because competitive conditions in the steel industry were lacking," noted the Joint Congressional Economic Committee. The recent $4-a-ton hike will permit the steel monopoly to pay off a huge rebuilding program in ten years instead of the 30 that would be normal for writing off such an investment.

Since the Temporary National Economic Committee produced a five-foot shelf of reports baring the power of monopoly in the U. S. ten years ago, that power has grown enormously. Anti-trust laws are still a joke: maximum penalties for violations are a $5,000 fine (no more than a license fee for big corporations) and a one-year prison term (no one convicted of anti-trust violations has ever served a day in jail). Fifty years of investigation have proved two things conclusively: (1) that investigations won't halt the trend, and (2) that monoplies mean high prices and the rooking of consumers. These recent developments barely suggest the extent of the rooking:

MEAT: The Dept. of Agriculture will soon change its meat-grading system. Meat-grading, which is not compulsory, is controlled by four big packing companies. Under the new system **prime** and **choice** will be lumped together as **prime. Good** will become **choice. Commercial** will become **good.** And meat that can't even make the **commercial** grade today will jump into that class. (In New Orleans, the Classroom Teachers Federation is preparing to do battle on behalf of school children who have been served horsemeat wieners for their school lunches.)

MILK: The National Dairy Products Corp. and 12 subsidiaries were sued by 16 independent milk distributors for price-cutting. Since National Dairy (Morgan-connected) and Borden (close to Rockefeller), which control 70% of the market, began a price war seven months ago to cut into the independents' market, milk dropped from 21c a quart in the chains to 17½c (the farmer got 8c and 6c respectively). Once the independents are driven out, the milk trust can up prices as it pleases. In 1938 milk sold at 10c a quart in the chains.

Both National Dairy and Borden have been fined three times in 12 years for anti-trust violations. Borden's total fines came to $15,000 or .006% of its assets; National Dairy's to $15,000 or .005% of its assets.

In New York the Consumer-Farmer Milk Cooperative asked the Dept. of Justice to investigate the milk trust's efforts to halt the sale of low-priced milk to low-income housing projects. The milk trust has dictated a clause in the contract of the milk drivers (a local of the AFL Teamsters Union) which says in effect that they can't deliver milk to low-cost depots.

OIL: The Justice Dept. indicted seven major oil companies on the west coast. Together the seven—including the huge international operators California Standard, Texas Co., and Shell—control 94% of the crude oil, 97% of the crude oil trunk lines, all tanker facilities, 85% of refining capacity in a five-state area. They have fixed prices to rob the consumer and drive independents out of business. Throughout the nation oil price increases cost consumers about $1,300,000,000 a year, 1946-48.

For 50 years the oil trust has been investigated and indicted by the government without affecting its power. U. S. tax laws allow oil companies a tax exemption of 27½% on all oil and gas taken out of the ground and up to 50% on their profits. Congress has refused to lower this exemption. Oil company profits have been fabulous—in 1948 they were two and a half times what they were in 1946.

LET THERE BE PROFITS: Sixteen months after General Electric's conviction for conspiracy to monopolize the electric lamp industry (its sixth conviction for monopoly practices in ten years), the Justice Dept. ordered it to dispose of half its production facilities for making light bulbs. GE, controlled by the Morgan interests, had been cutting the life of its flashlight bulbs by two-thirds, and operating its giant lamp business under invalid patents.

In the course of the GE trial which ended in Trenton, N.J., last week, one witness—president of a GE lamp works affiliate—blandly told the court that the international lamp cartel "never paid much attention to American anti-trust laws."

THE NATION

Cold warriors seek to drown peace call

WARLIKE sounds and the cries of witch-hunters rising from Washington and eastern seaboard cities seemed designed to drown out Trygve Lie's appeals for peace and protests against the bipartisan betrayal of FEPC.

At almost the very moment that Lie returned from Moscow, and Democrats and Republicans nailed shut the FEPC coffin, a spy-hunt was launched in Philadelphia. Harry Gold, a studious biochemist, was seized as an accomplice of Britain's Dr. Klaus Fuchs in transmitting atomic secrets to Russia. A wave of further arrests was predicted by a hysterical press.

In Washington, the State Dept. washed its hands of responsibility for the munitions shipment which exploded at South Amboy, N.J., killing 27 dock workers. Congress passed a two-year draft extension and Vice-President Barkley said: "We may have to occupy more countries before the cold war is ended."

The Senate approved the $3,200,000,000 Marshall Plan. But Congress refused to appropriate funds to administer the rent control program until June 30, when the present law expires. The rent control agency sent dismissal notices to all its 2,800 employees. Hope for a new rent control law were thin.

THE HETEROSEXUALS: As a Senate committee voted to probe homosexuals

in government as security risks, N.Y. Daily **Compass's** Washington columnist I. F. Stone pointed out the broader risks implicit in heterosexuals (the rest of us)—if for no other reason than that there are so many more of us.

As a defense against the wiles of Mata Haris and others presumably preying on susceptibles in government, Stone proposed guarding our precious secrets as sultans of old guarded their harems—with eunuchs.

BILL OF WRONGS: While President Truman boasted to a Washington citizenship conference that "the Bill of Rights is enforced," the FBI was boasting that it knows "every Communist in the United States."

To witch-hunters generally the Washington **Post** cried "halt." It was worried that the hysteria would extend so far into responsible ranks that U.S. unity would be destroyed, the fight against Russia weakened. The **Post** fully accepted the premises of the witch-hunters. Men and women working for peace and freedom kept their eye on the ball.

FOR PEACE & JUSTICE: In Chicago, the Mid-Century Peace Conference got under way with delegates earnestly seeking to "transcend differences of faith, race, creed, political beliefs and occupation and bring together Americans who believe that peaceful alternatives to the present war can and must be found." In Cincinnati the 162nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church called for "immediate cessation" of the manufacture of hydrogen bombs and all other weapons of mass destruction.

• A call for a National Trade Union Conference for Negro Rights, to be held in Chicago June 10-11, was issued by N.Y.'s Harlem Trade Union Council and Chicago's South Side Labor Council. It will tackle the crisis confronting the Negro, who makes up 10% of the U.S. population but 25 to 40% of the unemployed.

• In Philadelphia lawyers for the Trenton Six—in jail now for two and a half years—sought an injunction against the attempt of Mercer County

DR. GEORGE CANNON
Secretary of the Physicians Forum, who is a sponsor of the Mid-Century Peace Conference

(N. J.) Judge Charles Hutchinson to bar them from the case. The N. J. Atty. General's brief argued that if out-of-state lawyers were to be allowed in, parties to a case might "be justified in insisting on retention of English, French, indeed Russian counsel." The court took the appeal under advisement, is expected to rule in about six weeks.

• In Martinsville, Va., seven Negroes convicted of "raping" a white woman waited for the Supreme Court's answer to their petition for a writ of certiorari. Four had been slated for execution May 26 and three, June 2.

LABOR

AUTO WORKERS

Reuther pledges no strikes for 5 years

WALTER Reuther, president of the CIO United Auto Workers, reached an agreement in Detroit last week with the three-billion-dollar General Motors Corp., which in effect bars strikes for five years. The five-year contract, unprecedented for its duration, cannot be reopened for any reason by either party before May 29, 1955.

It calls for a 4c hourly wage increase each year—subject to a wage escalator clause by which wages are adjusted each quarter to the Labor Dept.'s consumer price index. Wages can't be cut more than 3c under present levels. Reuther, under pressure from GM workers, has promised to ditch the wage escalator formula adopted in 1948. Under it, wage raises for GM workers lagged a cent an hour behind increases won at other major companies. The 4c hourly increase is really only a 1c increase since the old contract provided for a 3c hourly increase each year.

SPEEDING THE SPEED-UP: With output per worker increasing at an unprecedented rate, the five-year freeze on wage raises—and the provision for cuts if the cost of living goes down—means increased output of GM workers will go into GM profits. GM's 1949 profits of $650,000,000 were the biggest ever earned by any company.

The contract provides for $100-a-month pensions at 65 for workers with the company 25 years, with pensions to go up to $117 if the federal government increases its benefits. The company will pay half hospitalization costs for workers and their families. The union compromised on its demand for a union shop. It agreed to retain the company security clause which permits GM to fire workers fighting the speedup.

LET'S STABILIZE: Government and business leaders hailed the contract. GM President C. E. Wilson said it would have a "stabilizing influence" on "the economy of the whole country." David Lawrence wrote in the N.Y. **Herald Tribune** that "if the union can keep its mmbers from striking when the cost-of-living index forces a wage-cut—then something new and encouraging will have been introduced into labor-management relations."

For Walter Reuther it was "the most significant development in labor rela-

tions since the mass production industries were organized."

BRIDGES

Trial by strikebreaker

"Since its birth in the bitter, bloody San Francisco dock strike of 1934, the ILWU has been the core of militant trade unionism in the West. Bridges was one of the CIO's founding fathers and its leading spokesman in the area. The ILWU has lent active support to the organization and growth of other CIO unions. And Harry Bridges is the man whom labor credits, more than any other, with improving the lot of the longshoreman."—Business Week, May 13, 1950.

IN Washington a CIO committee went through the motions of a trial preparatory to expelling Harry Bridges' longshore union from the CIO. Prosecutor and a member of the three-man trial committee was William Steinberg of the American Radio Association, who is up on charges of strikebreaking on the West Coast. One witness against Bridges was Mike Quill, CIO transport leader, who testified he saw Bridges at Communist meetings in the east in November, 1946.

Bridges produced documentary evidence to show he hadn't been out of San Francisco at the time. Following him before the kangaroo court was Hugh Bryson's Marine Cooks & Stewards Union. Like the ILWU, MCS belongs to its membership.

UE faces Govt.-CIO front

In the battle between the United Electrical Workers and the raiding CIO Intl. Union of Electrical Workers, UE won at Schenectady (a local of 15,000) and at Erie (12,000). It lost its big local at Lynn, Mass. (16,000) by a bare 700 votes. UE is challenging the Lynn vote because of the open intervention there of Labor Secretary Maurice Tobin.

Tobin appeared at an IUE rally just before the election and demanded that workers vote for IUE. The issue, he said, is "whether a vital industry will be in the hands of Americans or friends of Soviet Russia."

Tobin's speech, another manifestation of the growing "labor front" being forged by the CIO and the government, was the first time a government official intervened publicly in a representation dispute between unions.

Incomplete tabulations for other GE plants showed 39 for UE and 21 for IUE.

Fur workers quit CIO

The International Fur & Leather Workers Union voted unanimously at its Atlantic City convention to cancel its affiliation with the CIO. The union was to have faced a CIO "trial" committee June 6. The convention also voted to sign the Taft-Hartley oaths. But it made clear that it intended to retain the leadership of its president, Ben Gold, a Communist who makes no bones about it.

FARM

WAR, PRICES, EGGS

Worried unionists prod their leaders

FARMERS Union members in Minnesota last week were being asked to co-sign a wire to James Patton, the organization's president, and Roy Wiseth, the state president, from a newly-formed Rank & File Farmers Union Committee for Peace. Main point of the communication was this:

With disturbing trends toward a war economy and toward war itself, we are deeply concerned about the silence and fence-straddling on the part of the national and state Farmers Union leadership on the question of peace. . . . We believe the Farmers Union should shout 'Peace' from every farm housetop and from the State and National Offices and from the legislative office in Washington to give leadership that will stop the suicide of humanity.

The rank and file committee explained: "We are . . . urging a stepped-up fight for peace, both for the sake of peace itself and because we won't get the Brannan Plan as long as the war crowd runs Washington."

MORE DOUBLETALK: In Congress the Brannan Plan itself was going the way of the rest of Harry Truman's Fair Deal. Key Democrats were taking the President's Brannan Plan promises as for the record only, were preparing new farm legislation which did not envisage using any part of the Brannan formula for keeping farm supports adequate and consumer prices low by giving farmers direct payments to maintain their income. Senate Majority Leader Lucas (D-Ill.) was on record against the Brannan Plan, and Sen. Elmer Thomas (D-Okla.), chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee, and Rep. Harold D. Cooley, chairman of the House Agricultural Committee, were drafting the "new farm program."

Farm income was still going down. Figures for the first quarter of 1950, released by the Dept. of Agriculture, indicated that the drop might be as big as $2,500,000,000 for the full year.

JERSEY AND THE HENS: The poultry segment of agriculture was in a real crisis. In New Jersey, where poultry farming is the largest agricultural pursuit, the contradictions of the present law were wreaking havoc; eggs are now supported at 75% of parity, but grain, biggest production cost of poultry farmers, is pegged at 90%. The gap is spelling ruin for thousands. To fight back, the N.J. Poultry Farmers Committee called a series of three mass rallies to press for an amendment to the law. The first meeting, last week at Lakewood, was attended by more than 1,000 poultry farmers.

This is South Amboy—not Hiroshima

Twenty-seven dock workers were killed in the New Jersey explosion when munitions bound for Pakistan blew up. Last week in New York, former Interior Secretary Harold Ickes asked whether the arms were not destined ultimately for Arab countries for possible future use against Israel.

NEW YORK

Pro-Nazi rally swamped by pickets

COMMON Cause Inc. is a high-hat brigade formed to "combat communism." Backed by Herbert Hoover and Msgr. Robert I. Gannon, president of Fordham University and a sponsor of Louis Budenz, the organization is, among other things, part of the pro-Nazi bloc in the U.S. Last week it held a "Hold Berlin" rally in New York's Town Hall, with Gen. Lucius D. Clay, former U.S. Military Governor in Germany, as main speaker.

The rally was a flop. Pickets mobilized by the American Jewish Labor Council outnumbered the audience nearly 10 to 1. Organizer of the affair, Hearst anti-labor columnist Victor Riesel, didn't even show up. Gen. Clay failed to make his prepared speech. About 200 in the audience responded to a call, "Decent Americans, let's get out of this place," as the general was introduced. He ducked a question about his reduction to four years of the life sentence for Ilse Koch, "Bitch of Buchenwald" who made lampshades from the skin of her victims.

DEMOCRACY AT WORK: Outside, the pickets numbered up to 5,000, according to one estimate. One hundred and fifty cops, mounted and on foot, charged them repeatedly. Old-timers could not remember when the police had been more savage. It was impossible to list the number of persons clubbed, beaten, mauled. But the pickets reformed their ranks as often as they were broken, ranged up and down nearby Sixth Av., and made a final show of strength in Times Square before they voluntarily dispersed.

Said the American Jewish Labor Council: "Any other pro-Nazi meeting will receive similar demonstration from outraged New Yorkers." Delegations to Mayor O'Dwyer to protest the police attack were planned.

PUBLIC WORKERS

City union-busters on the rampage

The biggest delegation to City Hall was to come on June 14: labor leaders predicted that 25,000 would turn out to protest union-busting by the city administration. The suspension of eight teachers, all leading members of the Teachers Union (an affiliate of the United Public Workers), was well-known. But last week a two-year running attack by Welfare Commissioner Raymond Hilliard upon UPW members in the Welfare Dept. came to a head.

In recent weeks there had been nine firings capped Monday by the dismissal of Eleanor Goding, president of Local 1, the only Negro woman ever to hold the position. Back of this was a long history of punitive measures against union members: 79 had been fined up to six days' pay; 31 had been given punitive transfers; 52 were given below-average ratings; five were demoted from supervisory positions, a 13-year-old grievance machinery had been destroyed. Of the 186 penalized, 183 were Jewish, Negro or Puerto Rican.

RELIEF CRISIS: Abram Flaxer, UPW president, termed Hilliard's actions a lockout, called on all New York City labor to join the City Hall demonstration.

Nub of the Hilliard-union conflict was his policy of cutting relief and reducing staff while growing unemployment brought relief conditions to a crisis point. In April relief clients had increased 59% in 17 straight months; 351,961 persons had received assistance in that month, nearly 60,000 of them on home relief. Over the weekend a line of 4,000 men seeking 200 city laborer jobs at $30 a week emphasized the increase in unemployment. The earliest ones in line had been there since Saturday night.

"Get Marc": nobody home

On the city's political front efforts were still being made to form a three-party coalition to defeat American Labor Party Congressman Vito Marcantonio, but by the end of the week no candidate had yet been found who could get united backing.

CHICAGO

Vice probe makes headlines, little else

PATRONS of Chicago's near north side vice joints last week found the dice boards gone, the strippers wearing brassieres and the B-girls absent. Reason: The Grand Jury for three weeks had studied the report, based on 2½ years' study, of the Chicago Crime Commission, which charged a close connection between police, political big-wigs and the vice trade. But

Crime Commission officials themselves predicted the clean-up would last only about six months.

Sensational headlines reported these charges: that one cop made monthly rounds of every joint on north Clark and Rush Sts., collected $150 to $200 from each "for the political big-wigs" (for a total of $1,000,000 from 400 taverns); that most honky-tonks in the area buy their plate-glass window insurance from State Sen. William Connors, who represents the district.

On the spot were Police Commissioner John C. Prendergast and Mayor Martin H. Kennelly. Prendergast denied before the jury that conditions were bad but said "corrective measures can and will be taken." The Mayor would appear later.

Major promise of the Crime Commission's report was that Kennelly and Prendergast had made only "token and half-hearted attempts" to deal with prostitution, gambling, dope addiction and lewd entertainment.

Other Illinois developments:

- Mayor Kennelly's administration last week was still blocking action on a 50-million-dollar housing program, as two southside hospitals reported that rats in the Negro sections have bitten 168 babies in two years. Paul Alinsky, chairman of the Public Housing Assn., commented: "The fastest way for people of the south side to eliminate rats from their homes is to eliminate the city hall rats who are keeping them from getting decent housing."
- Of 65 colleges and universities in Illinois, most use biased methods in the selection of students. The Illinois Interracial Commission reported that 29 ask the applicant his race, 45 his religion, 50 ask questions about the language spoken at home.

Hey, General MacArthur! Where do you think you are—Elba?

By James Dugan

WHAT'S the matter with General of the Army Douglas MacArthur? The General has been away from the U.S. almost as long as Lt. Philip Nolan, the Man Without a Country. Mac is not forced to stay away. No federal judge told him to get out and stay out. You'd think Mac lost the war the way he refuses to come marching home.

Gen. Washington didn't say farewell to his officers in Frances Tavern and then take a room there, waiting for newspapermen to come all the way from Philadelphia to interview him. Andrew Jackson didn't chase the limeys out of New Orleans and then settle down in the Old Absinthe House, waiting for congressmen to flatboat down the Mississippi for advice. Gen. Grant didn't stick around Appomatox. Admiral Dewey wasted no time in Manila but came right back and passed under the largest temporary plaster arch ever erected on Fifth Av. Black Jack Pershing didn't hang around France with a corncob pipe in his mouth for five years.

MacArthur is acting mighty queer for an American general. Where does he think he is—Elba?

OF course many ex-soldiers have a rough time adapting to civilian life in the U.S., but this doesn't seem to be Mac's problem. Advertising endorsements alone would keep him out of the Old Soldier's Home — pipes, toupees, dress accessories, mimeograph paper, sun glasses and wading pants.

Most generals become writers when they are through. Mac could hold his end up with the best of them, in these days when it's a pretty backward little national magazine that can't produce a general's memoirs every issue. He has one of the finest prose styles since the late Senator George Graham Vest, author of the immortal **Tribute to the Dog.**

Some think Mac may be jealous of Eisenhower. This is hard to believe. Years ago, when Eisenhower was a paper officer in the Philippines, Mac outranked him. When Herbert Hoover told Mac to gas the bonus marchers out of Anacostia Flats in 1932, Col. Eisenhower was Gen. MacArthur's executive officer and saw that the job was done. Mac outranks Eisenhower in the West Point Benevolent and Backscratching Society. Mac is running a whole country; Eisenhower has only a college up to now.

It can't be jealousy. Compare their recent speeches. Eisenhower told everybody to live dangerously and stop worrying about a decent living. As far away as Mac is, he never pulls anything so dumb as that. He concentrates on giving communism hell and yields to no man in his hatred of the boll weevil.

MY own theory for MacArthur's curious expatriation is that he must have had his sense of time jarred in some battle. He thinks he won the Spanish-American War. His daddy, Gen. Arthur McArthur, was a hero in it. His old soldier's tales made a powerful impression on the boy. Mac has devoted his life to consolidating the Spanish-American victory. His political ideas are pure 1898.

When Mac's friends show up in Tokyo they look Spanish to him. Some congressmen went out to see him recently and reported that Mac refuses to come home and save the U.S. from Formosa unless there is a Joint Resolution of the House and Senate inviting him. This would probably have to be backed up by a unanimous vote of the Spanish Cortes, the Hanseatic League, the Holy Roman Empire, the Gallup Poll and the Imperial Duma.

Mac is needed here. Barney Baruch, Herbert Hoover and William R. Hearst are getting pretty old, even for elder statesmen. We need a youthful hand on the tiller. At the rate he's going, Eisenhower won't be ripe for 22 years. Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. is running for President backwards and is spoken of as an outside bet in 1996. Chester K. Arthur is admitted by everybody to be washed up. General MacArthur, sir, please go to the supply sergeant, draw a college president's uniform and wade home now.

Pots & pocketbooks

Drinks—hot or cold

By Charlotte Parks

THE "office wife" used to be the gal who loved her boss so much she never became a Mrs. herself. Now that a large proportion of women working in offices wear wedding rings, they are applying wifely common sense to office problems.

Sending out for "cawfee and" for lunch or midafternoon is an old office custom. Why not a cooperative right in the office? A paper cup of hot coffee brought in costs 15c and somebody has to collect the money, write down everyone's desires and lug in the hot package. Fifty cents a month per capita will provide instant coffee, powdered cream and lump sugar daily, with change left over. The tap will provide hot water; or, an electric coffee pot can heat water in a trice.

ICE COLD LEMONADE: Why not try lemon, orange or grape in powdered form for cold drinks on hot days? These are vitamin-reinforced. Most office folk don't drink enough liquids for health. It's the sugar in bottled goods that puts on the fat, but when you make your own you have the choice of leaving out the sugar.

HOME COLD DRINK SHELF: Hospitality and summer go together. Any woman who hands a man a long cool drink on a hot day is devastatingly beautiful. The hotter it grows the higher goes the price of lemons, so try the small cheap can of lemon juice when you can use up the can at one time. It deteriorates with stand, but tastes tree-fresh when first opened. Try some of the fruit syrups like grenadine (pomegranate juice) or tamarindo. They just need water to make a wine-like drink, especially if you add soda water. For quick service iced tea and coffee use the instantaneous brands.

Bottled drinks run into money, and what you get only a chemist can tell you—and the information mightn't make you happy. Be sure the powdered fruit drinks you buy are the real thing. You can get them at pure food stores always. And how about a package of paper cups to save washing?

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AMERICAN BIROBIDJAN COMM. CONFERENCE, Sun., June 11, 1-5 p.m., Palmer House. Reports by J. M. Budish and Joseph Morgenstern, recently returned from extensive tour of Israel. Daniel A. Uretz, Ambijan Pres., H. B. Ritman, co-chairmen. Delegates' fee 50c.

ALBERT E. KAHN, Natl. Pres. JPFO-IWO and author, will speak on "The Jew and the Struggle for Peace," Tues., June 20, 8 p.m., 11th St. Theatre, 72 E. 11th St. Admission $1. JPFO, 64 W. Randolph St. AN 3-2660.

BALTIMORE

RALPH MATTHEWS, Wash. Editor Afro-Amer., speaks on "Civil Rights and the Cold War" at Baltimore Forum, Morgan Hall, Penna. and North Avs., Sun., June 4, 8:30 p.m.

CLASSIFIED

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JUNE 3 from 2 p.m. to 12 is the Jefferson School Carnival, 575 Sixth Av. Square dances, side-shows, cabaret, Pet show, Kiddy Carnival. Admission $1, kiddies 50c.

DOLLAR STRETCHER

Battery "dopes" no help, sometimes harmful

THERE are a number of preparations on the market, known as battery "dopes," that claim to charge or add pep to car storage batteries. National Bureau of Standards tests show they do not charge batteries or materially improve their performance; in fact, they sometimes do damage if the solution contains impurities. Note that the manufacturer's guarantee is voided if such preparations are put into the battery.

BUY NYLON NOW: Prices of nylon hosiery have been reduced by manufacturers, and stores have cut them further. Reason: this is the beginning of the bareleg season. Nylons are selling for as little as 69c at some sales. After Labor Day, when women stock up again, prices invariably rise.

THE AIR-LITE

SPECIAL PRICE ON STROLLER: The Air-Lite combination stroller and shopping cart (see photo) is an increasingly popular item because it's lightweight (made of aluminum) and has a foot rest to prevent the child's feet from dragging. But at its list price of $12.95 it's so overpriced that many merchants sell it for less—often for $11. You can order it by mail for $8.95 (plus 40c postage east of the Mississippi, 75c west) from Household Mart, 157 St. Nicholas Av., Brooklyn 27, N.Y. (No COD accepted).

Shopping Questions

ELECTRIC MIXERS: "Will you write about food mixing machines?" —*Mrs. J. H. B., San Pedro, Calif.*

In selecting a mixer, compare these features: wattage of the motor; ease of removal of the mixer head for use at the stove and of the beaters for washing; revolving turntable for a two-way blending. A mixer with governor control is preferable so the motor maintains constant speed with heavy or light mix. A 12- or 16-speed mixer is not really necessary, except possibly for an inexperienced cook who will want to know exactly what speed to use for each job. Most operations require just the three standard speeds. A three or five-speed mixer can also be regulated for additional speeds.

Lowest-priced mixers are those sold by Sears and Alden's mail-order houses at $20. Both are Underwriters Laboratory-approved. Neither, however, has a governor. Most reasonable mixers with governor are Ward and Sears at $30. Among national brands, the **Dormeyer** is the only one that includes a meat chopper in its $32 list price. The Dormeyer is frequently sold for less than its list price by independent merchants. If you can't get a discount in your locality, you can buy the Dormeyer for as little as $25 from the discount houses mentioned in this column. The GE mixer, at $35, is the only make with three beaters, an aid to smooth blending.

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THE NORTHWEST

New Deal spirit comes alive again

By Ted Slater

SEATTLE

HERE in the north-west corner of the U.S. a tide of militancy is coming to full flood as old people, workers, youth and organized Progressives take action for security, peace and citizens' liberties. The sum of these activities is perhaps the most heart-warming reaffirmation of the New Deal spirit in the U.S. today.

WEYERHAEUSER STRIKE: A precedent-making challenge to great monopolies' economic and political power in this area is the two-state strike against the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. On May 15, 9,000 members of the Intl. Woodworkers of America (CIO) shut down operations of the biggest concern of its kind in the world. Picket lines against Weyerhaeuser—the lone holdout against 1950 contract demands—are scattered all over Washington and Oregon.

Since all Weyerhaeuser plants are at a standstill, the company is for the first time prevented from using its tactic of shifting work from strike-bound to operating plants. Veteran militant in charge of strike operations is Karly Larson, a logger born and bred, beloved by lumber workers for his courage, ability and devotion to their interests.

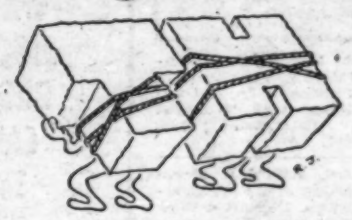
SEATTLE DOCK STRIKE: On Seattle docks another strike rages, caused directly by right-wing CIO attacks on the left-wing Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers Union which held contracts with the Alaska Canners. CIO regional director Roy Atkinson chartered a splinter union affiliated with the United Packinghouse Workers, which made a backdoor agreement with the packers. FTA countered by encouraging its members (mostly Filipinos) to join Harry Bridges' powerful International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union which promptly hit the docks with picket lines.

LABOR PROTESTS T-H DECISION: Meanwhile anger rises against the Supreme Court's decision upholding constitutionality of the Taft-Hartley non-Communist oath.

In Oregon, business agent Eugene Tucker of Local 5-3, Intl. Woodworkers, called the decision "a definite slap in the face to the working people." ILWU Intl. Rep. Matt Meehan advised the judges to "go back to grade school and re-read the First Amendment." Pres. Peter Iliinsky of Local 1244, United Construction Workers, said: "The time will come when they will regret and be ashamed of their decision." Sec. Roy Hill of the Oregon State Conference of Painters (AFL) said: "If they are trying to rid the U.S. of unnecessary strikes, they had better look to the employers' actions, not ours."

Wide AFL, CIO and unaffiliated union

HUGH BRYSON
The opportunity is now



support is being given the 75,000-signature drive to place two initiative measures on the November ballot: one to boost present $10-$25 jobless benefit payments to a flat $35 a week, one to put a $65-a-month floor under grants to the blind and senior citizens. The latter, drawn by the militant Washington Pension Union, would provide stiff penalties for any state administration trying (as the reactionary GOP administration of Gov. Arthur B. Langlie has done) to torpedo provisions of the pension law.

SOLIDARITY FOR PEACE: Realization that all these struggles for a better life are tied up with the fight for peace grows steadily. On the coast of Puget Sound where the U.S. meets Canada, near the small town of Blaine, there is a Peace Arch. On June 4 young people from both countries will meet there for a "hands across the border" rally against the threat of war.

Canadian youth from Victoria and Vancouver will fraternize with American kids from Seattle, Tacoma, Yakima, Spokane and other Washington communities. Their theme: "H-bomb production is not the answer to, but a betrayal of peace, and is a denial of the better world we were promised just yesterday."

PROGRESSIVES IN ACTION: Peace had been the theme of the Washington Progressive Party state convention two weeks earlier, attended by 239 delegates including the Woodworkers' Karly Larson and Negro leader Charles Nichols, Seattle port agent of the Marine Cooks & Stewards (both elected PP vice chairmen); the president of a United Mine Workers local, the state organizer for the Unemployment Councils, and an ex-college president.

The convention rejected the plank in the PP national platform which implies equal U.S. and Soviet blame in the cold war, but went on record to support liberal and peace-minded candidates even if they repudiate PP support. It endorsed the old-age and jobless benefits initiatives; supported the loggers' and cannery workers' strikes; demanded more school funds, a special Legislature session to strengthen state FEPC, and that charges of hiding and tampering with evidence be brought against Washington's chief witch-hunter, State Senator Canwell.

Said convention keynoter Hugh Bryson, president of the Marine Cooks and Stewards and head of the California PP: "There is more need for the Progressive Party now, and greater opportunities to build it, than ever before. The old parties have either failed or sold out." Bryson described the cost of the cold war in jobs to maritime workers, and said that without renewal of trade with China conditions on the west coast could not be bettered.

Immediate action mapped by the party included circulation of women's peace ballots and a series of peace rallies culminating in a great demonstration in Seattle in August.

MONTANA

Heroes unknown

"SMOKEJUMPERS" are young men employed and trained by the U.S. Forest Service to fight forest fires, dropping to them by parachute. It is a rough, tough, dangerous job. Last fall in a forest fire in Man Gulch near Helena, thirteen smokejumpers went in by parachute. They never came out again.

The Progressive Party of Flathead County at Kalispell was, like all Montanans, shocked at the deaths. To the GUARDIAN they wrote last week:

> These boys were dropped in a narrow canyon with steep slopes covered with vegetation, at about 3 P.M.—the time of day when fires spread most rapidly; with a brisk wind added, a fire can travel much faster than a human on foot. . . . Smokejumpers under the present set-up have no protection in case of death on duty.

Their response: to muster national support for a bill introduced in Congress by Rep. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), which would provide compensation of $10,000 to the beneficiaries of smokejumpers losing their lives on duty. The measure would be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1949, to include the 13 who died in Man Gulch. Flathead County Progressives are also demanding an impartial investigation of "ugly facts" they have brought to light about the Man Gulch tragedy.

Our senior citizens

Townsend Plan convention in Denver biggest ever

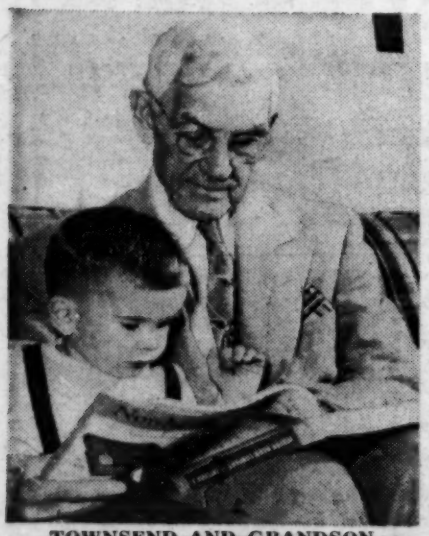
WHILE the Washington (state) Pension Union mounted a terrific campaign for its "Declaration of Economic Independence" $65 pension initiative, old folks from 48 states were heading for Denver for the 10th Nation Townsend Plan Convention to start Monday, May 29 and last through the week. With 197 signatures now on a discharge petition to bring the Townsend Plan to a vote in the House, and only 21 more needed, excitement among Townsendites was near the pitch of their early campaigns in the '30's. The Denver gathering was likely to be the biggest in the history of the organization, which now claims 13,000 clubs throughout the nation.

The Townsend Plan would pay $150 a month to 18,000,000 senior citizens, the money to be spent within 30 days. The theory: security for oldsters, prevention of depressions by keping billions of dollars in circulation.

"NOTHING WILL STOP IT": Dr. Francis E. Townsend, originator of the Plan, was coming to Denver from Washington where he has spent several weeks lining up support among congressmen. He told a group of members of Congress that with "almost 10% of our population suffering for lack of a decent standard of living . . . the Plan is becoming more essential every day. Once it gets to the House floor, nothing will stop it."

Townsend National Weekly, organ of the movement, was pointing out that while senior citizens of the industrial north-east average $54 a month in pensions, those of seven southwestern states get only $43; in Texas, only $34. Such variations showed that state action could not solve the problem. In "The Doctor's Column" in **TNW** last week, Townsend had this to say:

> Surely we are not fools enough to believe that war is the only answer to depression. But to avert war—and depression—we will have to admit to ourselves that big business is not big enough or courageous enough to run the show. . . . The government is the only agency not afraid of turning money loose in times of emergency. Why should it be? Government is all of us; and working together, we constitute an invincible power.



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CALIFORNIA

Fun in the primary

SOUTHERN Californians awaiting the June 6 primary elections were getting a chuckle out of these campaign stunts as:

● A mock wedding between senatorial candidate Rep. Nixon, as the bride, and Hitler as the groom. Bridesmaids were Sens. Mundt (R-S.D.) and Ferguson (R-Mich.). Flower girl was Chiang Kai-shek.

● Formation of the "Tenney Retirement Fund" to "run Sen. Jack Tenney clear out of Sacramento and elect Robert W. Kenny." A short pitch attached to the gilt-edged fund "certificate" which each contributor got for sending his cash said: "As a stockholder, it is guaranteed that regular dividends shall be Progress, Freedom and Good Government in the interest of the people." Fund hdqs.: 2960 W. 8th St., L. A. 5, Calif.

Supporters of Kenny, liberal Democratic former state attorney general, said they were getting a "terrific response" from a mailing to those listed (over 1,500) in Tenney's annual report on Who's Red in California.

TURN THE CLOCK BACK: Tenney, the generally acknowledged J. Parnell Thomas of California, meanwhile had read back to him at a campaign meeting a statement from the California Assembly **Journal** of April 14, 1937. In it Tenney called an anti-labor district attorney

> "a man who believes communists are lurking behind every pillar and post and Red armies are apt to materialize out of thin air at any minute to destroy our government [and one who] believes every activity on the part of organized labor to better their working and living conditions is subversive and un-American."

The man who read it to him, Leon Clifton, editor for AFL's Retail Clerks Union, Local 770, said Tenney "took it lying down."

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